

October

Magic Lantern Society



Late 18th Century Gave Us Phantasmagoria - Click image.

Be Sure to LOOK for those
Buttons and roll-over effects

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Call for Presentation Proposals

Invitation: The Magic Lantern Society of the United States and Canada invites members and nonmembers alike to submit proposals for presentations pertaining to the Magic Lantern and other related visual entertainments for its 18th International Convention. Proposals from collectors, researchers, students, hobbyists, and entertainers are all welcome.

Subject Matter: Typical presentation topics include original research regarding magic lanterns, slides, showman, showmanship, show re-enactments, and newly created shows. We welcome all presentations that further the stated purposes of the society

Time Length: Presentations are typically scheduled for 20 minutes each with 10 minutes Q&A/Set-up between each presentation, with longer and shorter presentations considered based on the overall convention schedule and the subject matter proposed.

Proposal Requirements:

Submit a brief description of the proposed program, by email or postal mail, one page maximum. A few sentences will do. We

18th International Convention 2018 April 20th to 22nd Victoria BC, Canada



will contact you for additional information as needed regarding content, technical and logistical requirements of the proposed presentation.

Due Date for Proposals/Schedule: Proposals must be received no later than December 1, 2017. All proposals will be reviewed and draft program schedule developed by mid-January, 2018. While we hope to accommodate all applicants; please understand that due to the number and types of presentation proposals received, it may not be possible to accept all proposals at this Convention.

Submit Proposals to:

David and Lesley Evans
Postal Mail: 4920 Bench Road, Cowichan Bay, BC, V0R 1N1, Canada
Email: DWinwoodEvans@aol.com



The Inn at Laurel Point

680 Montreal Street Victoria British Columbia V8V 1Z8 Canada
Tel: (250) 386-8721 Toll Free: (800) 663-7667
Fax: (250) 386-8731.

There is a choice of room types:

The Laurel Wing contains classic guest rooms, freshly and beautifully refurbished, at the special price of CA\$159.00 per day + tax.

Bear in mind these prices are in Canadian Dollars, which currency is more attractive to tourists needing currency exchange than US Dollars are at present! It is suggested that room bookings should be thought about sooner rather than later, as exchange rates have a habit of changing without warning. Booking facilities are available now.

guests do need to book by Monday, March 6th, 2018 in order to secure the group rate

more next page

Convention continued



Click slide below for reasons to extend your stay

Or you may upgrade to the Erickson Wing Studio Suites. Unrivalled in Victoria, these are ultra-lux spaces with incredible views over the harbour and enormous bathrooms! The price to delegates is CA\$229.00 per day plus tax.

If you would like to extend your stay by a few days before or after the Convention, the hotel is happy to offer you the same price structure for those extra days.

There is a special booking link for our delegates. Please click on below:

<https://reservations.travelclick.com/12209?groupID=2027681>

or you can contact
Cheri Koohtow, CMP
Events Coordinator
Inn at Laurel Point
Local Number: (250) 414-6733
Toll Free Number: (800) 663-7667

"having travelled to the wilds of the North west what should you expect?"

"expect to want to extend your visit, To this end the hotel has agreed to honour the special rate offered for the Convention for three days either side of the weekend, subject to availability. Book early to avoid disappointment!"

Phantasmagoria: Creating the 'Ghosts' of the Enlightenment

The most popular form of visual entertainment before cinema, phantasmagoria specialised in thrilling audiences with macabre illusions created through trickery and science.

Writing for History Extra, Fabio Camilletti explores the phenomenon that transfixed audiences in the 18th and 19th centuries and influenced much of the Gothic fiction of the time...

3D cinema and virtual reality gaming are fast becoming typical entertainments of our age, as we tend towards multi-sensorial experiences breaking the barrier between audiences and the show. We might therefore be surprised to know that phantasmagoria – the most popular form of visual entertainment before cinema – tended to the same purpose, and that spectators responded, both physically and emotionally, in a much stronger way than the crafty audiences of nowadays.

Phantasmagorias (a modern coinage made out of two Greek words, roughly meaning ‘summoning of ghosts’ or ‘image-playing’) were shows which aimed to completely absorb their audiences’ attention, both mentally and bodily. Showmen all over Europe worked incessantly to implement effects and marketing strategies, in order to always offer something new to the public – or, at least, resell old tricks in new disguises.

The first phantasmagorias

The first shows advertised as ‘phantasmagoria’ were performed a few years later in France, during the Revolution: the first adverts date to 1792 and the performer was a certain ‘Philidor’, but the first performer to fully exploit the potential of these shows was Étienne-Gaspard Robert, a Belgian entertainer



who used the stage name of ‘Robertson’. Having witnessed the flourishing of British Gothic novels, an English name was certainly more fashionable: a taster – and surely not the least one – of Robertson’s talent as a show-businessman.

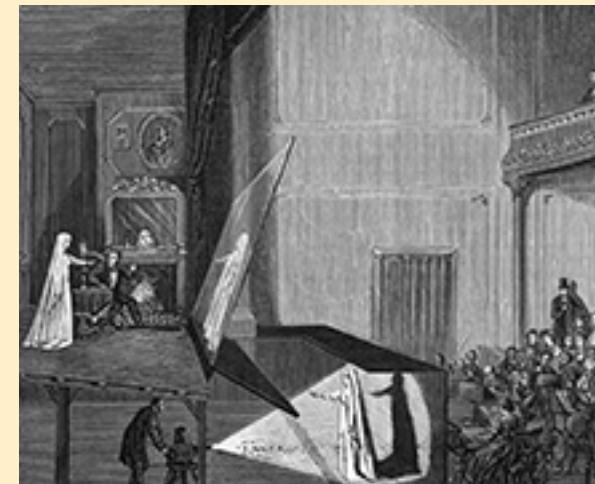
These were the years of the revolution and of state atheism. The Catholic religion had been banned in France, replaced by the worship of ‘the goddess Reason’. Jacobin activists wrote on cemetery walls that there was no afterlife and death was nothing but an endless sleep, and Robertson, unlike Schröpfer, was careful in explaining that his experiments were just tricks, that no ghost was actually summoned, and that his shows even had a revolutionary purpose: tricks such as those he performed, adverts suggested, might have been used in past centuries by priests in order to cheat the people, simulating the apparitions of angels, saints, or gods.

more at”

<http://www.historyextra.com/article/bbc-history-magazine/phantasmagoria-creating-%E2%80%98ghosts%E2%80%99-enlightenment>

Tricks and technologies

In the mid-1770s in Germany, Johann Georg Schröpfer – a former soldier who variously claimed to be the master of a Freemason lodge, a Catholic priest, and the illegitimate son of a prince – held ghost-summoning séances in the coffee-house he had bought in Leipzig with his wife’s money, and had thus gained the nickname of Gespenstermacher (meaning ‘ghost-maker’). Heavily robed, in a room filled with all sort of exoteric paraphernalia, Schröpfer conjured the ghosts of historical figures as well as of ordinary people. His apparitions floated in the air, and sometimes screamed with a horrible sound.

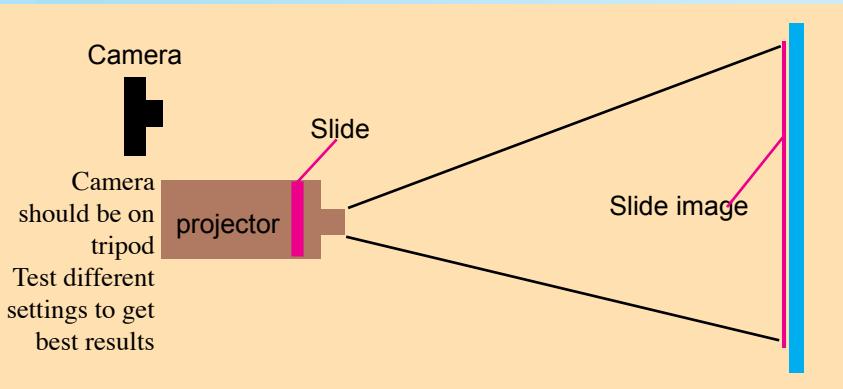


An exhibition of ‘Pepper’s Ghost’ in a theatre, circa 1865. (Photo by Archive Photos/Getty Images)

Capturing that Favorite Slide as a Digital File

Methods of Image Capture of Lantern Slide Image

Projected slide Image

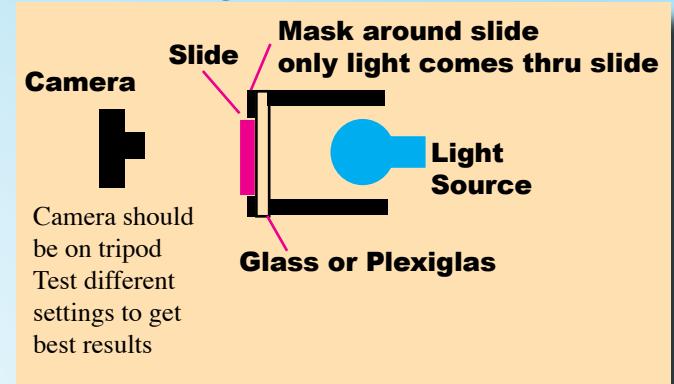


The final product you want is an important part of the process. For sharing a slide image on line there is no need to exceed 120 ppi for the resolution of the slide at the

size the image is to be used, example 3" x 4" @ 120ppi.

Digital cameras have a variety of resolutions and image sizes as their output and you can re-size and prepare your digital file in your favorite image editing program.

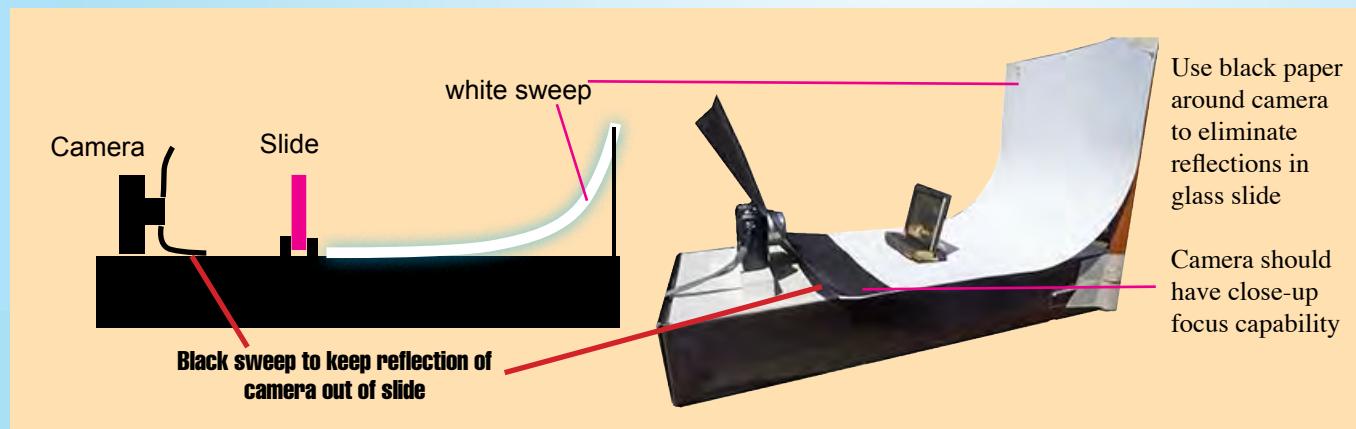
Slide on Light box



Another method is using a scanner to capture the image.

Not all scanners can capture a usable digital file because they do not have a transparency light source.

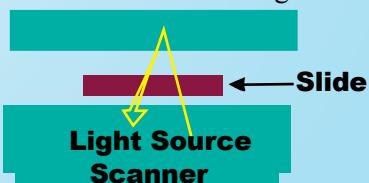
Slide Shot with Light Reflected Off Sweep



Use black paper around camera to eliminate reflections in glass slide
Camera should have close-up focus capability

Scanner without transparency light source

Light bounces off upper part of your scanner and is reflected back down thru slide and recorded in your scan as a shadow or double image

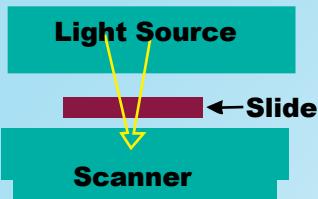


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Capturing that Digital File continued

Scanner with correct light source

The scanner needs to be able to capture the light that goes through the glass plate to capture the image.



printing on a 600–1200 DPI printer.

Digital guidelines

Digital images are measured in pixels PPI (pixels per inch) and are printed on devices that measure their output in DPI (dots per inch). To get the best looking image of a slide, it is important that the scanner collect sufficient data. An output resolution of 300 PPI at the size of the finished print wanted is necessary for

There are many sites, Youtube and blogs on line that cover the many different ways to capture a digital image of a slide. Also there are scanner reviews and instructional videos

Duplicate slide

Another reason for capturing a digital file of a slide image is for the purpose of making a duplicate slide because the original you have is damaged.

Before



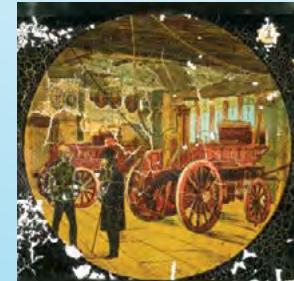
After



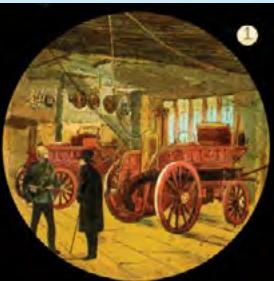
You can remove cracks and correct color balance.

After the file has been captured then you can use your favorite photo editing software to make repairs to your new slide image file. It's best to work at an enlarged size, 300-400 percent larger than lantern slide size. When completed image can be reduced to lantern slide size.

Before



After



Types of slide making materials

- o Overhead transparency material
- o Inkjet decal process
- o Photography with 4x5 color transparency

One of the easiest ways of making a copy slide is to use overhead transparency material. It allows you to get six slides on one 8.5 x 11 inch sheet. The best thing to do is make various density versions of the same image to get the best end result slide copy.

Another inexpensive method is to print on inkjet decal material. The same process applies in making various density versions of the same image to get the best end result slide copy. The decal can be applied to a lantern glass blank and then covered with a cover glass and taped.

The most expensive material is the 4x5 color transparency. A high quality print of the corrected slide image is photographed on 4x5 color transparency film. This may be hard to find as many of film types and their processing are no longer available. There are sites on the internet that do 4x5 film processing.



Interested in Membership

From: Carol S. McFarland

mcfarlandcarol136@outlook.com

Hi, I live in CA, and am interested in becoming a member. I started collecting Lantern slides over a year ago, To broaden my photo collection of the 1900.s, which are primarily steroviews. I would like to learn more about magic lanterns, and have the good fortune to now own two projectors. Thanks. Carol

From: Carol s. McFarland

May I ask for your advice regarding the wattage on the light bulb; so I do not burn out the glass slide, what would your advice be? 25 watt, 40 watt, 60 watt? With the new bulb standards in the hardware store, it adds to my confusion as to the best bulb to use.

The possibility of the Convention sounds fun and exciting next year in Victoria B.C. Does the Convention oscillate between Canada and the states every other year?

Thanks again. Carol

From David Evans

Hi Carol

I have some stereo views and stereoscopes too!

Certainly there are great many lantern slide images taken from the 1870s or so onward, so plenty of scope to enlarge your collection, and generally at modest prices too. Bear in mind that excessive heat is the main enemy of lantern slides. Another is damp. Worth looking at potential purchases to make sure they haven't suffered from either. Back in the day many lanterns used to get VERY hot and slides could get 'cooked' quite quickly. Not so much of a problem these days, as most exhibitors use lower power, but just as bright, illuminants such as quartz halogen lamps or now LEDs.

You would be most welcome to join us. We have a Convention next April (19th - 22nd) in Victoria BC, Canada. If you should be able to attend there will be both amateur (brilliant ones!) and professional magic lantern shows as well as presentations from various parts of the world about many aspects of lantern and slide history. There will be members with all sorts of special interests who would be pleased to talk to you about the hobby, sales tables with slides, lanterns etc for sale and an auction on the Sunday, so lots of bargains, we hope!

I could send you a membership application form, or you could use the one on our web site should you wish to take it further.

Good luck with the collecting!

David Evans

From David Evans

Hi Carol

Regarding lamp power, it depends on many factors, such as what size image you need, how far from the screen does the lantern have to be etc. This last depends on the focal length of your projection lens, so there is no easy answer to your question. As a general guide, probably a 100 Watt quartz halogen lamp would be OK for general use at home or in a small hall. If using a conventional filament type lamp bulb, you might need about 200 Watts. Best would be a LED lamp, which isn't specified by power in Watts but rather by Lumens (i.e. brightness). Something like a car headlight LED lamp would probably work. Probably about 10 or 12 Watts if you put it like that.

Hope that helps.

Regards

David

Value

From Dee Dee B Love

chikadee@...com

We just found a magic lantern amongst our grandparents home, in original box and a box with 20 single pictures, one looks like a king and queen... we would like to know what the value might be. I can send a couple of pictures.

From David Evans

Hi Dee

It looks like the lantern is probably complete. As it stands it does not have the objective (projection) lens or the chimney, but I can see those I think in a box with other items. It might be an M C Lilley or a Marcy or similar American maker. It doesn't look like it is in very good condition. We know the slides are wood mounted, but the main value in slides is the image - quality, condition, subject matter etc. Could you let us see a few of those?

Thanks.

David Evans

Value

From Bill Houston

billhouston56@gmail.com

Looking for an electric cord for my Bausch & Lomb viewer. Have looked on eBay, but have been unsuccessful at finding one. Any advice on where I might find a cord that would work with my projector? Thanks, Bill

Thanks for getting back to me David. I'm attaching several photos of the plugs on the projector. It's a two prong plug, as you can see. A larger three prong cord would not fit. I hate to modify the projector in any way, but I guess a ground would be safer. Let me know if you have any further advice. Thanks again, Bill



Cord for Magic Lantern Projector

From David Evans

Hello Bill

Without knowing your exact model of Bausch & Lomb, I assume there is, or was, a plug for the cord to connect to the lantern. If so, do you have the plug, perhaps attached to an old worn out cord? If so a new cord can be connected to the plug and all will be well. If you cannot do this, any electrician could do it for you. If the cord is hard wired into the projector, again it can be easily replaced with a modern cord. Use at least a 15-amp one and must be 3 conductor for safety. If there should be a plug and you don't have it, we can put your request in our next E-Publication in the hope that one of our members has a spare one.

Thank you for your enquiry.

David Evans

Hello Bill

That looks like a regular American two-pole connector. You may be able to get a matching female connector from a good hardware or electrical store. If you can, still use a three-core cord. You can trim the outer sheathing back a few inches to expose the two conductors plus ground. Connect the black (live) and white (neutral) wires to the connector, shortening them first if necessary, then, if you have trimmed the wires back enough, you could connect the ground wire under one of the chrome-plated nuts adjacent. Then you will have a safe, grounded projector. If you can't get a suitable female two-prong plug, one of our members may well have an 'official' B & L one.

Good luck!

David Evans



Michigan Contacts?

From: Michelle Andonian

michelle@michelleandonian.com

Hello,
I am a photographer in Detroit and hoping to connect with someone who may be able to help me learn more about the ability to use a magic lantern in a modern day performance. I am working on a performance collaboration with classical musicians who will be performing in a lodge room in Detroit's Masonic Temple. They have some slides there but all their lanterns are not in working condition. Any connections to the availability of working lanterns and/or someone who has/operates them would be great. Is there by chance any members you know of from your group in the Detroit/Michigan area I could contact?

Thank you so much!

Michelle

From David Evans

Hello Michelle

Thank you for your enquiry. We do have a member in Erie who just might be able to help. I am copying this email to him and if he is in a position to help he will probably contact you directly. We could also put your plea for help in our monthly E-Publication, in case other members might have a useful contribution to make.

Regards and good luck.

David Evans
Secretary-Treasurer
Magic Lantern Society of US & Canada

From Tom Rall

Hi Larry and Michelle,

I am introducing you and suggesting that Michelle send Larry, our online editor, a note on the project upon which you're working involving the Masons and a Symphony.

From: Michelle Andonian

Thank you Tom,

Here is a link to the performance <http://detroitchamberwinds.org/mozart-and-the-masons/>

As we discussed my approach for the performance working with the "magic lantern" slides and concept is still very much in progress.

I will be doing 3 short "visual interludes" during the performance. The content of what that will be exactly is still in the works.

Stay tuned,

Michelle

From Michelle Andonian

michelle@michelleandonian.com

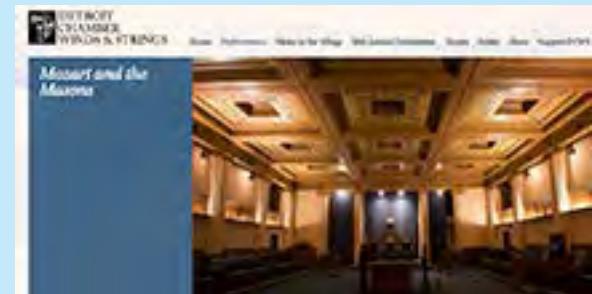
Hello Tom,

Below is the short I-phone video test I did with the slide I found at Detroit's Masonic Temple.

Thank you for all your help and let me know if you have a problem viewing this. I'll keep you posted!

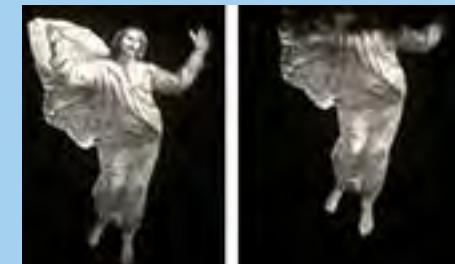
Michelle

Mozart and the Masons



Mozart and the Masons
November 12, 2017 at 3 p.m.
Masonic Temple
500 Temple St,
Detroit, MI 48201

For the last seven years of his life, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was a Mason, which greatly influenced his life and work. DCWS violist James VanValkenburg and photographer Michelle Andonian explore this relationship in a multi-disciplinary tour of Detroit's Masonic Temple.



Photos from the video

Electrifying Magic Lantern

From Steven McGillen

David,

I have been planning how to modify it. I already have: A candelabra lamp cord with a candelabra socket and a switch. A candelabra socket to a mini candelabra socket for the bulb I have. I have to drill out the hole in the bottom to 1".

I'll let you know how it works and provide instructions, if it works?

I almost have it done. I have been keeping notes on what I've done. I will write up the instructions when I am done. I have to have an extender tube made for the lens. My lens was too short. Right now I am using a piece cardboard tube.

Steve



From David Evans

An interesting conversion - do let us know how it works. A bit odd that the lens tube needs extending, but so be it if it needs it to focus. Good for you!

Regards

David

The Nishik Kage-e Performance

From Ron Easterday

Latest from Mitsue. Nice graphics even if not in English should be of interest. She and the troupe were wonderful in New Orleans

Dear Ron,

How are you?

I would like to inform the Nishiki Kage-e event in autumn Japan.

I am grateful for your heartwarming consideration in the convention of Nola deeply. I feel happy whenever I remember the event in the convention in the US.

I attached the PDF of the performance of The Nishiki Kage-e Ikeda-Gumi. We are supposed to perform a show of Nishikikage-e in the national theater of Tokyo on September 23.

http://www.ntj.jac.go.jp/schedule/kokuritsu_s/2017/920.html?lan=j

After that, on October 15, I am going to have the stage Nishiki Kage-e in Ohe Noh theater in Kyoto, International Film Festival. I am so sorry that it is written in Japanese, and it became late to tell you about that. I and students are practicing

the performance hard after school every day. It is becoming colorful and beautiful autumn day by day in Japan.



Please be careful not to catch a cold in your health, because it is the turning point of the season.

Sincerely yours,

Mitsue



Next Meeting Noon October 1 Bremerton WA Host Ron Easterday

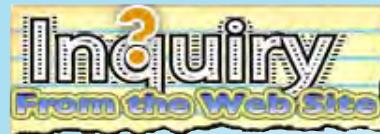
On the Agenda

- Next year's meeting dates
- Book two of slides of the Northwest
- Latest Convention information



Group NW members at Sedro-Woolley Museum Sept 9th

During Founders' Day weekend in Sedro-Woolley, Ron & Dorothy Easterday, Larry Cederblom and John Potter were there to present and discuss some of the original 1914 lantern slides of the local moral show and the slides from the Dream Theatre of Sedro-Wooley. The presentation was about the creators of those slides kept by the Sedro-Woolley Museum



From: Robert Jahn
robertjahn100@gmail.com

Good afternoon and thank you for creating this society.

I am a volunteer with Duke Homestead, a state historic site in North Carolina, and we are putting on an event for Halloween that will use magic lantern slides. We are currently looking for an entire series of slides from roughly the late 1800s from the United States that tells a story, preferably with a script. We would also like these to be digitized or able to be digitized.

Would you be able to help me locate a resource? I saw that there was a membership fee of \$25, but I am unsure of the funding for this event. Please let me know if you can help me with this project. Thank you.

Regards,
Robert Jahn
571-212-3453

Needed Series of Magic Lantern Slides with Script

Hello Robert

There are huge numbers of slides available on Ebay, most probably including Hallowe'en stories, especially at this time of year. You may be able to find something suitable. If not, we can include your request in our monthly E-Publication, which goes to all our members, and hope that one of them has something suitable. We do have original readings for a number of slide sets, but if you buy a set it is obviously a bonus to get a reading with it. Otherwise you could make up your own story to match the slides, which is what many of our showmen members do.

We do not require you to be a member to do this, though you might consider a membership to be of benefit in the future.

Thank you for contacting us.

David Evans
Secretary-Treasurer
Magic Lantern Society of US & Canada

*If you can help provide a solution for
Robert contact him at:*

Robert Jahn
robertjahn100@gmail.com
or 571-212-3453

A Big Thank You to the following:

Michelle Andonian
Ron Easterday
David & Lesley Evans
Bill Houston
Carol S. McFarland
Robert Jahn
Steven McGillen
Dee Dee B Love
Kentwood Wells

contributing to this months issue.

Now it's your turn to share!

Do you have a favorite site or a collection of images you would like to share with the rest of the society?

E-mail Larry

Gazettes Posted Online **From Kentwood Wells**

The 2016 issues of The Magic Lantern Gazette are now posted online in full color at:



<https://library.sdsu.edu/scua/digital/resources/magic-lantern-pubs/gazette#2016>

Welcome New Members

Richard Wainwright

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PhD student, media and
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literature

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025-980-0457
mcfarlandcarol136@outlook.com
Educator
Interests lanterns & slides

